

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01 NEA-10 TRSE-00 EB-11

SCEM-02 SCI-06 OMB-01 DRC-01 /168 W

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R 132005Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5557

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EC, NATO

SUBJECT: PM HEATH REAFFIRMS ESSENTIALITY OF ATLANTIC
ALLIANCE

BEGIN SUMMARY. PM HEATH'S TRADITIONAL GUILD HALL SPEECH
ON NOVEMBER 12 MADE STRONG PITCH FOR CONTINUED EC EF-
FORTS TO DEVISE COMMON FOREIGN POLICY WHILE REAFFIRMING
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IMPORTANCE OF NATO AND ESSENTIALITY OF UNITED STATES

ROLE IN DEFENSE OF EUROPE. HEATH'S EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE OF US ROLE RECEIVED WARM APPLAUSE FROM DISTINGUISHED AUDIENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. AT TRADITIONAL GUILD HALL SPEECH, PRIME MINISTER HEATH ON NOVEMBER 12 SAID THAT AMIDST UNCERTAINTIES SURROUNDING THE WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THREATS TO OIL SUPPLIES AND TENSIONS BETWEEN THE SUPER POWERS, BRITISH GOVERNMENT WAS PURSUING TWO MAIN OBJECTIVES: FIRST, TO BRING FIGHTING TO AN END IN ME AND TO WORK FOR POSSIBILITY OF CREATING THERE A SECURE AND LASTING PEACE, SECOND, TO HOLD FAST TO TRADITIONAL ALLIANCES AND FRIENDSHIPS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

2. RE MIDDLE EAST--"WE BELIEVE THERE NOW EXISTS A REAL OPPORTUNITY, THE FIRST PERHAPS FOR MANY YEARS, TO CONVERT TRUCE AND CEASE-FIRE INTO PERMANENT SETTLEMENT AND LASTING PEACE. THAT MUST BE OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE. WE SHALL DO ALL IN OUR POWER TO BRING IT ABOUT. OUR JUDGMENT...HAS NOT CHANGED SUBSTANTIALY IN THE PAST THREE YEARS. THE DECLARATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE EC LAST WEEK WAS CLOSELY BASED ON THAT LONG-STANDING AND DEEPLY CONSIDERED JUDGMENT. ...IT IS NATURAL THAT WITHIN BRITAIN PUBLIC ATTENTION SHOULD FOCUS...ON OUR OIL SUPPLIES. I DO NOT PROPOSE TO DISCUSS TONIGHT THE SHORT-TERM PROBLEMS IN THIS FIELD, SAVE TO SAY THAT I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THEIR SOLUTION DEPENDS UPON ACHIEVING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST."

3. RE ENERGY CRISIS--"WE HAVE TAKEN MEASURES TO SUSTAIN OUR COAL INDUSTRY. WE ARE PLANNING INCREASED GENERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER. WE ARE VIGOROUSLY ENCOURAGING THE EXPLORATION FOR OIL AND GAS ROUND OUR SHORES. WE CAN EXPECT BY 1980 TO BE MEETING TWO-THIRDS OF OUR OIL REQUIREMENTS FROM THE NORTH SEA. THANKS TO THESE MEASURES, AND TO THE INVENTIVENESS OF OUR SCIENTISTS AND OUR INDUSTRY, THIS COUNTRY WILL EMERGE AT THE END OF THIS DECADE WITH A BROADER AND BETTER BASE FOR OUR ENERGY RESOURCES..."

4. RE ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIPS--"I SHOULD LIKE TO RETURN
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TO ANOTHER ASPECT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WESTERN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES. OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS THE RELATIVE MILITARY POWER OF THE UNITED STATES, RUSSIA AND WESTERN EUROPE HAS BEEN CHANGING. THE SOVIET UNION HAS ACHIEVED NUCLEAR PARITY...THIS MEANS THAT THE SOVIET UNION CAN NEGOTIATE FROM A POSITION OF STRENGTH IN THE TALKS ON STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION. ...IN POLITICAL TERMS, TOO,

THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE TWO SUPER POWERS...HAS
ACQUIRED A QUITE NEW MEANING, FOR EACH IN THE EYES OF
THE OTHER. WE HAVE SEEN DURING THE MIDDLE EAST WAR HOW
CRUCIAL THIS INTERACTION OF STRATEGY AND POLITICS HAS
BECOME...BUT SOME THINGS HAVE NOT CHANGED. THERE REMAIN
...THE IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES DIVIDING NATO FROM THE
WARSAW PACT. AND THERE REMAIN ALSO THE IDENTITY OF
INTEREST AND THE STRATEGIC INTERDEPENDENCE OF THE NATO
ALLIANCE. THESE ARE VITAL TIES WHICH UNITE THE
ALLIANCE."

5. HEATH THEN WENT ON, "THE ESSENTIAL PRIORITIES HAVE
NOT CHANGED. THE NEED FOR AN ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP
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DEDICATED TO THE COMMON DEFENSE REMAINS AS NECESSARY AS
EVER. IN THAT PARTNERSHIP THE UNITED STATES REMAINS, OF
COURSE, BY FAR THE LARGEST AND MOST POWERFUL OF THE
PARTNERS. THE WAY IN WHICH THEY HAVE SUSTAINED THAT
PARTNERSHIP, AND THE GENEROSITY WITH WHICH THEY HAVE
ACCEPTED...THE RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH THEIR ROLE IN
THE PARTNERSHIP HAS LAID UPON THEM, ARE FACTS WHICH NONE
OF US CAN FAIL TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR."
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6. THE PRIME MINISTER WENT ON TO STATE HIS BELIEF
THAT HOWEVER IMPORTANT THESE (US AND SOVIET) CENTERS OF
POWER AND DECISION WERE, THE WORLD OUTSIDE THEM IS
EQUALLY IMPORTANT TOO, "HOW THE WORLD IS SHAPES TOMORROW
MAY DEPEND JUST AS MUCH ON THE NEXT GENERATIONS
ELSEWHERE. WHAT MEN BELIEVE IN PEKING OR TOKYO OR IN
CAIRO AND TEL AVIV, OR INDEED HERE IN WESTERN EUROPE,
MAY INFLUENCE OUR LIVES...NO LESS POWERFULLY THAN
DECISIONS TAKEN IN WASHINGTON OR MOSCOW."

7. THE PRIME MINISTER CONTINUED BY EXPRESSING HIS CON-
VICTION THAT THE EC MUST CONTINUE TO WORK TO DEVELOP
A COMMON POSITION AND POLICY IN FOREIGN POLICY AS
IN TRADE AND MONETARY MATTERS.

8. COMMENT: IN MANY RESPECTS HEATH'S SPEECH WAS A
RESTATEMENT OF HIS WELL-KNOWN VIEWS. IT IS OF INTEREST
THAT HIS REMARKS ON THE ESSENTIALITY OF THE ATLANTIC
PARTNERSHIP (INDEED HIS DELIBERATE USE OF THE TERM
PARTNERSHIP) AND HIS ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE HEAVY BURDEN
BORNE BY THE UNITED STATES IN THE ALLIANCE RECEIVED THE
MOST GENEROUS APPLAUSE FROM A VERY DISTINGUISHED
AUDIENCE.

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